GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2007
DECLINE IN NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total livestock available in the country at present;

(b) whether the number of livestock has been declining in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years alongwith the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government is aware of the involvement of slaughter houses in slaughtering of bovine more than authorized number of animals as also the slaughtering of stolen animals; and

(e) if so, the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a): According to the latest quinquinnial livestock census conducted in October, 2003, the total livestock available in the country is 485002 thousand.

(b): Yes, Sir. The number of livestock has declined from 48,53,85,000 in 1997 to 48,50,02,000 in 2003 which is about 0.8%.

(c): The livestock census is conducted quinquinnially. The latest one was conducted in 2003, The total number of livestock during the last three years, therefore, is not available. Details of livestock in the country as per 1997 and 2003 censuses are given at Annexure-I.

The reasons of decline in population of indigenous cattle and pack animals could be the mechanization of agricultural activities and the transport systems which have diminished their commercial viability.

(d): No, Sir.

(e): The matter of slaughter houses and slaughtering of animals is a state subject. The slaughter houses are run under the control of Nagar Nigam/Zila Panchayat in their respective jurisdiction/States.